

South Carolina Educator Preparation Guidelines: Standards, Policies, and Procedures
Content of Middle Level (Grades 5–8) and High School (9-12) Preparation Programs

Content of Middle Level (Grades 5-8) Preparation Programs

Approved by the State Board of Education on December 12, 2017

Consistent with standards of the Association of Middle Level Education (AMLE), middle level candidates at the undergraduate level must complete at least one area of content preparation. Candidates must take 18 to 21 semester hours of coursework in the selected content area (i.e., English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies). At least 12 semester hours in the selected content area must be upper-level coursework above general education requirements.

Clinical experiences for middle level candidates must be in grades five through eight in the content area(s) in which they are seeking initial certification; however, candidates should have field experiences across the middle level grade span. Candidates are encouraged to take 6 to 12 semester hours in a second content area in order to pursue add-on certification in another middle level content area at a later time. The additional hours in a second content area are not required for a candidate to complete an initial certification program or to be recommended for initial certification.

As part of an approved program with two concentration areas, Educator Preparation Providers (EPPs) may require candidates to complete two areas of concentration with at least 15 semester hours of coursework in each area.

Note: Prior to December 12, 2017, middle level candidates at the undergraduate level were required to complete two areas of concentration with at least 15 semester hours in each area.

Content of High School (9-12) Preparation Programs

Approved by the State Board of Education on August 8, 2012

Secondary candidates must complete a major of at least 30 semester hours in the area for which they are seeking certification.